

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 ACDA-07

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /111 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9071

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9212

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN

SUBJ: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 220772, (B) STATE 220773

1. DCM CALLED ON MFA UNDERSECRETARY NADIM MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 13 TO REVIEW UNGA ISSUES DISCUSSED REFTELS. AFTER GOING OVER ALL POINTS, BUT NOT RAISING PUERTO RICO, MIDDLE EAST, OR PANAMA CANAL, NADIM RESPONDED AS FOLLOWS:

A. KOREA. NADIM SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK KOREAN ISSUE WOULD LOOM AS LARGE THIS YEAR AS IT HAS IN THE PAST AND THAT BULK OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE WOULD FOCUS ON SOUTH AFRICA. IRAN'S POSITION AT THE MOMENT IS TO VOTE AS IT DID LAST YEAR, I.E., IN FAVOR OF THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION AND ABSTENTION ON THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION. HE SAID THAT IRAN SENSED A SLIGHT SHIFT AMONG AFRICAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES AWAY FROM NORTH KOREA ALTHOUGH HE WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER THIS WOULD BE TRANSLATED INTO CHANGES OF VOTES. IN SUM, HE THOUGH THAT WHILE NORTH KOREA MAY NOT HAVE IN FACT LOST ANY SUPPORT, HE DID NOT THINK IT HAD GAINED ANY EITHER. AS AN ASIDE, HE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE US HAD HANDLED RECENT EVENTS VERY SKILLFULLY AND THAT NORTH KOREA HAD GOTTEN A VERY CLEAR MESSAGE ABOUT THE STRENGTH OF OUR FEELINGS ON THE KOREAN ISSUE.

B. SOUTH AFRICA. NADIM SAID IRAN WAS AS ONE WITH
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US ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN ISSUE AND OUR EFFORTS TO FOSTER

MAJORITY RULE WHILE PROVIDING SAFEGUARDS FOR THE MINORITY.
FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY'S SPEECH AT THE UNGA
WILL ALLUDE TO THE PRINCIPLES INVOLVED BUT WILL NOT MENTION
NAMES. NADIM SAID THAT THE RUSSIANS HAD BEEN TO SEE HIM
EARLIER ABOUT UNGA ISSUES AND HAD TOLD HIM FLAT OUT THAT
THE SOVIET UNION INTENDED TO TAKE A VERY TOUGH LINE ON
SOUTH AFRICA AND WOULD VOTE WITH BLACK AFRICAN NATIONS
"EVEN IF IT WENT AGAINST THE UN CHARTER."

CC. ZIONISM/RACISM. NADIM RECALLED IRAN'S VOTE
LAST YEAR IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION 3379. HE SAID THERE
WAS STILL DEBATE WITHIN THE GOI ABOUT IRAN'S POSITION
THIS YEAR WITH A SLIGHT EDGE BEING HELD BY THOSE WHO
ADVOCATED STICKING TO THE POSITION IRAN HAD TAKEN LAST
YEAR. DCM REVIEWED TALKING POINTS SET FORTH IN REFTEL
(A) AND NOTED STRONG FEELING USG AND AMERICAN PUBLIC HAD
ON THIS SUBJECT. NADIM SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THIS
VERY WELL BUT REITERATED DIFFICULTY GOI MAY HAVE IN
CHANGING VOTE FROM ONE IT HAD MADE LAST YEAR.

D. CYPRUS. IN GENERAL GOI AGREES WITH US POSITION
AND IS SUPPORTIVE OF SECRETARY GENERAL'S EFFORTS TO PRO-
MOTE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES. HE
SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IRAN WOULD FEEL COMPELLED TO SUPPORT
TURKISH RESOLUTION IF IT CAME BEFORE THE UNGA.

E. WESTERN SAHARA. GOI SHARES OUR VIEW THAT
WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE OUTGHT TO BE RESOLVED PEACEFULLY
AMONG THOSE STATES MOST DIRECTLY CONCERNED. IT IS NOT
SOMETHING IRAN IS ANXIOUS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN BUT, IF
IT MUST, IT WILL PROBABLY SIDE WITH MOROCCO AS IT HAS IN
THE PAST. HE SAID THAT WHILE IT IS A SMALL MATTER OF
PRINCIPLE FOR ALGERIA, IT WAS A MATTER OF "LIFE OR DEATH"
FOR THE MOROCCANS. HE FELT MOROCCO WAS IN A TOUGH
POSITION ANND WAS BEING BLED WHITE BY GUERILLA WARFARE BUT
WAS UNABLE TO STEP UP ITS ENGAGEMENT WITH ALGERIA TO
ALL-OUT WARFARE BECAUSE BOTH COUNTRIES ARE ABOUT EVENLY
MATCHED MILITARILY AND THE OUTCOME, ACCORDINGLY, UNCERTAIN.

F. UNRWA FINANCING. IRAN IS IN PRINCIPLE IN AGREE-
MENT WITH THE VIEW THAT UNRWA NEEDS ADDITIONAL FINANCING
AND IS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT THE US IS WORKING TO INCREASE
ITS ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION. NEVERTHELESS, IRAN IS IN A
FINANCIAL BIND FOR THE MOMENT AND NADIM DID NOT THINK
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IT WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP THIS YEAR.

G. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. NADIM SAID IRAN WAS WITH THE US "ALL
THE WAY." HE COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A WESTERN
EUROPEAN CONSENSUS ON THIS ISSUE AND THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP.
HE EXPRESSED PESSIMISM, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD
SUPPORT AN INTERNATIONAL ANTI-TERRORIST INITIATIVE, COMMENTING
THAT THE SOVIETS DO NOT CONSIDER "REVOLUTIONARIES" AS TERRORISTS.

2. IN GENERAL, NADIM THOUGHT THAT IRAN AND THE US SAW
EYE TO EYE ON ALMOST EVERY ISSUE AND HIS DELEGATION
LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH OUR AT THE
FORTHCOMING UNGA. HE EMPHASIZED AGAIN, AS HE HAS IN
THE PAST, THE IMPORTANCE OF PRIOR CONSULTATION AND
ADVANCED WARNING ABOUT VOTING AND POSITIONS WE CONSIDERED
CRITICAL.
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